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New Facet in Slaying of JFK, Australia Reports

CPYRGHT

SYDNEY, Australia (Reuters) —The New York correspondent of the Sydney Daily Mirror reported today that the U.S. embassy in Canberra received telephone calls from the U.S. about an assassination plot before the murder of the late President Kennedy.

Correspondent Ray Kerrison said details of the calls were contained in a top secret document in Washington.

"The existence of the file came to light in an interview with Mr. Jim Garrison, the New Orleans district attorney, who is conducting his own investigation into the assassination," Kerrison said.

He said the document was one of 51 classified by the Cen-

tral Intelligence Agency (CIA) and held in the national archives. The file was labeled "CD 971," he added.

"NO ONE outside the highest echelons of the U.S. government has access to the file linking Canberra (the Australian capital) with Mr. Kennedy's assassination," Kerrison said.

He added that the title of the file — "Telephone Calls to the U.S. Embassy, Canberra, Re Planned Assassination"—and its file number were open to the public, although the document was not.

The Garrison investigation "has been harshly criticized in America," Kerrison said.

"But there is no question that this document suggesting that the U.S. embassy in Canberra was alerted to a plot to assassinate the President does exist," he added.